

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 965

Condemning the actions and statements of Venezuelan president Hugo Rafael Chávez Frías.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 7, 2008

Mr. ISSA (for himself, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mrs. BIGGERT, Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. BILBRAY, Ms. FALLIN, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. BUYER, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. KELLER of Florida, Mr. SALI, Mr. PITTS, Ms. FOXX, Mr. REHBERG, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. BROUN of Georgia, and Mr. CAMPBELL of California) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Condemning the actions and statements of Venezuelan president Hugo Rafael Chávez Frías.

Whereas on May 14, 2007, for the second year in a row, the State Department determined, pursuant to Section 40A of the Arms Export Control Act, that Venezuela was not fully cooperating with United States in antiterrorism efforts;

Whereas other uncooperative countries include state sponsors of terrorism, such as Cuba, Iran, North Korea, and Syria;

Whereas State Department officials expressed concerns about groups and individuals in Venezuela with links to terrorist organizations in the Middle East;

Whereas Venezuelan president Hugo Chávez is seeking closer economic, military, and diplomatic ties with Iran and North Korea;

Whereas in April 2006, the State Department asserted that the Chávez government sought closer relations with Cuba and Iran in the agency's Country Reports on Terrorism;

Whereas President Chávez persists with public criticism of the counterterrorism efforts of the United States and publicly championed Iraqi terrorist and insurgent groups;

Whereas the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) and the National Liberation Army (ELN) are on the State Department's list of designated foreign terrorist organizations;

Whereas President Chávez publicly claimed FARC and the ELN are not terrorist groups, and defended their status as true armies that occupy real space in their country;

Whereas the Chávez government allowed units of FARC and the ELN to cross into Venezuela to rest and regroup with relative impunity;

Whereas the Chávez government allowed splinter groups of FARC and the United Self Defense Forces of Colombia, known as the AUC, involved in drug trafficking to operate in various parts of Venezuela;

Whereas terrorist groups in Colombia have been found to be in possession of weapons belonging to official Venezuelan stocks and facilities; and

Whereas the Chávez government continues to remain indifferent to the activities and movements of terrorist groups operating in Venezuela: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) expresses its support for the Venezuelan
3 people and their continued self-governance in an
4 open, democratic form;

5 (2) calls upon the Chávez government to immediately implement measures to deny Venezuelan territory and weapons from being used as resources by
6 terrorist organizations;

7 (3) urges the Chávez government to police its
8 side of the 1,400 mile Venezuelan-Colombian border
9 to prevent the movement of groups of armed men
10 and narco-terrorists;

11 (4) encourages the Chávez government to cease
12 its supportive rhetoric toward anti-government guerrilla movements operating in neighboring countries
13 and respect the sovereignty of those democratic governments;

14 (5) urges President Chávez to resume full cooperation with the United States on counter-terror
15 measures; and

16 (6) calls upon the United States to examine the
17 extent to which Venezuela may be designated as a
18 terrorist sanctuary, defined as an area in the terri-

- 1 tory of a country that is used by a terrorist or ter-
- 2 rorist organization under a government which ex-
- 3 pressly consents to, or with knowledge, allows, toler-
- 4 ates, or disregards such use of its territory.

